

Notice of Public Hearing

STATE OF ALASKA Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

Re: Applications of the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey for waivers of the bonding requirements of 20 AAC 25.025, blowout prevention equipment requirements of 20 AAC 25.035, wellbore survey requirements of 20 AAC 25.050(a)(2), well site seismic survey requirements of 20 AAC 25.061(a), and gas detection requirements of 20 AAC 25.066, and for exceptions to the spacing requirements of 20 AAC 25.055(a)(2) or 20 AAC 25.055(a)(4) or both with respect to the following proposed U.S. Department of the Interior Coal Bed Methane (CBM) exploratory wells: Wainwright Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. In addition, the Commission, under 20 AAC 25.055(a), will consider establishing a drilling unit for the Wainwright area.

By letter dated and received on April 23, 2008, and as amended on April 25 and May 1, 2008, the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) applied to the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (Commission) for permits to drill the Wainwright Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 exploratory wells. The permit application requests waivers of the following requirements: the bonding requirements of 20 AAC 25.025, blowout prevention equipment requirements of 20 AAC 25.035, wellbore survey requirements of 20 AAC 25.050(a)(2), well site seismic survey requirements of 20 AAC 25.061(a), and gas detection requirements of 20 AAC 25.066. USGS also applied for exceptions to the spacing requirements of 20 AAC 25.055(a)(2) for the proposed Wainwright Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 wells, and for exceptions to the spacing requirements of 20 AAC 25.055(a)(4) for the proposed Wainwright Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 wells. Also, the Commission, under 20 AAC 25.055(a), will consider establishing a drilling unit for the Wainwright leases. The location of each of the proposed Wainwright wells, all of which would be vertical wells, is as follows:

Wainwright No. 3: 1720' FEL, 640' FNL, Sec. 24, T15N, R32W, Umiat Meridian (UM)
Wainwright No. 4: 1780' FEL, 540' FNL, Sec. 24, T15N, R32W, UM
Wainwright No. 5: 1650' FEL, 630' FNL, Sec. 24, T15N, R32W, UM
Wainwright No. 6: 1780' FEL, 660' FNL, Sec. 24, T15N, R32W, UM
Wainwright No. 7: 1890' FEL, 760' FNL, Sec. 24, T15N, R32W, UM
Wainwright No. 8: 2040' FEL, 970' FNL, Sec. 24, T15N, R32W, UM
Wainwright No. 9: 5040' FEL, 3720' FNL, Sec. 8, T15N, R31W, UM

The Commission has tentatively scheduled a public hearing on this application for June 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, at 333 West 7th Avenue, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. To request that the tentatively scheduled hearing be held, a written request must be filed with the Commission no later than 4:30 p.m. on May 23, 2008.

If a request for a hearing is not timely filed, the Commission may consider the issuance of an order without a hearing. To learn if the Commission will hold the hearing, call 793-1221 after May 27, 2008.

In addition, written comments regarding this application may be submitted to the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, at 333 West 7th Avenue, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska

99501. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on June 6, 2008, except that, if a hearing is held, comments must be received no later than the conclusion of the June 10, 2008 hearing.

If, because of a disability, special accommodations may be needed to comment or attend the hearing, contact the Commission's Special Assistant, Jody Colombie, at 793-1221, no later than June 2, 2008.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy P. Foerster". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cathy" being more prominent.

Cathy P. Foerster
Commissioner